

CHARLES GOCHEY.

APRIL 11, 1904.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. ALGER, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 4983.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 4983) granting an increase of pension to Charles Gochey, have examined the same and report:

The report of the Committee on Invalid Pensions of the House of Representatives, hereto appended, is adopted and the passage of the bill is recommended.

The House report is as follows:

This soldier, now 66 years of age, served as a private in Company F, Twenty-fourth Michigan Infantry, from August 13, 1862, to July 19, 1865, when honorably discharged.

He received a gunshot wound of the left leg at the battle of Gettysburg, and was pensioned on account of the same at \$3 per month from discharge, and at \$4 per month from June 30, 1886.

He is now pensioned under the act of June 27, 1890, at \$12 per month for total disability, due to the gunshot wound, a fracture of the left arm, affection of the right hand, and pharyngitis.

When last examined, in 1890, the board of surgeons rated him \$4 for the wound of leg, \$4 for the fracture of arm, and \$2 for disease of throat.

Medical and other testimony filed with your committee shows that seven years ago the soldier was stricken with paralysis, from which he partially recovered, but has never been able to earn a living since; that soon after this stroke he commenced to have epileptic fits, which have increased in number and severity up to the present time, having sometimes as many as six during twenty-four hours; that he requires constant care; that all his savings had been exhausted by reason of his sickness, and that his little home even had been mortgaged in order to provide the necessaries of life.

Following precedents in like cases, the soldier having served faithfully for three years and being now helpless and poor, an increase of his pension to \$30 per month is warranted.

The passage of the bill is therefore recommended.